

NBC BRIEFING

NO. 14  
DATE 1-16-80  
REVIEWER: 372044

9 May 1957

INDONESIAN DEVELOPMENTS

- I. Sukarno, by 8 May promulgation of "emergency" decree, has imposed his concept of "guided democracy" (first proposed last February) on Republic of Indonesia.
  - A. Sukarno will personally head new senior body, the "National Council," appoint its members and outline their duties.
  - B. "Council" is to consider all aspects of Indonesian affairs, will "advise" Gov't "with or without its consent."
  - C. There can be no doubt that Communists will be included in the Council and that their influence will be strong.
- II. Sukarno can be expected to play increasingly direct role in Indonesian affairs.
  - A. He will probably work to implement development projects in rebellious provinces, in effort to buy back their allegiance to central authority.
  - B. At same time, he will follow present program of political and military pressure to undercut dissident provincial leaders.
    1. Several Sumatran officials have recently been arrested while visiting Djakarta.
    2. New efforts apparently are underway to undercut authority of East Indonesian autonomy movement.
- III. In the rebellious provinces, both the decree and the arrests are likely to intensify anti-centralist sentiment and to stimulate the desire for a final break with Djakarta.
  - A. Any indication of the government's intention to use armed force to restore central control could suddenly precipitate regional conflict.